

II. COPIES

a. ___ Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE
(check at least one box)

a. X Except as may be indicated below in (b), all of the patents, publications or other information are in the English language or were cited in an English language Search Report, a copy of which is attached hereto (concise explanation not required).

b. ___ A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:

c. ___ The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration:

FEES

IV. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)
(check one box)

a. ___ within three months of the filing date of a national application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) (1)). No fee or certification is required.

b. ___ within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) (2)). No fee or certification is required.

c. X before the mailing date of a first Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) (3)). No fee or certification is required. In the event that a first Office Action on the merits has been issued, please consider this IDS under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and see the certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) below, or, if no certification has been made, charge our deposit account a fee in the amount of \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

V. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c):
(check one box)

before the mailing date of a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) (1)) or before the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311 (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) (2)).

a. ____ No certification; therefore, a fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

or

b. ____ See the certification below. No fee is required.

VI. CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)
(check only one box)

The undersigned hereby certified that

a. ____ each item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or

b. ____ no item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the best of my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

c. ____ Some of the items of information were cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office. As to this information, the undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby certifies that no item of this remaining information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the best of my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

VII. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)

____ after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance but before the payment of the Issue Fee, and the requisite Certification, petition, and petition fee are included herein.

a. ____ after the mailing date of a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113

b. ____ see certificate above

c. ____ a fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 CFR § 1.17(p)

d. ____ applicant hereby petitions that this Information Disclosure Statement is considered in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d).

____ Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$180.00 for the above-indicated fee. Should any further fee be associated with the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 04-1105.

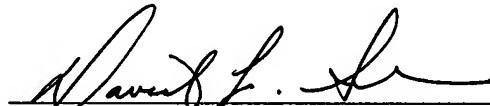
☒ No fee is required.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition, if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 04-1105.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

June 21, 2004



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Commissioner for Patents

Serial No. 10/801,301

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SERIAL NO.

(49366)58920 CON

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

APPLICANT(S): Gary M. McBrien, et al.

FILING DATE:

03/16/2004

ART UNIT:

2856

UNITED STATES PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAM. INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FIL. DATE IF APPR
	AA	4,485,678	12/04/1984	Fanuele			09/27/1982
	AB	5,210,704	05/11/1993	Husseiny			10/02/1990
	AC	5,934,610	08/10/1999	Karolys et al			10/14/1997
	AD	6,289,735	09/18/2001	Dister et al.			09/29/1998

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRAN YES/NO
	BA	EP 1 148 320 A2	24.10.2001	EPO			YES

OTHER DOCUMENTS (INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)

CA

International Search Report dated 28 August 2003

Examiner:

Date: